



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON  
COMMISSIONER

**Exhibit #III.B.**

**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education

**FROM:** Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner\*

**DATE:** April 9, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Major Capital School Construction Program; *Site Approval Consideration*;  
Falmouth School Department – Elementary School Construction Project.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

Superintendent George Entwistle, III, requests that the State Board of Education approve a site in Falmouth, Maine, for a new elementary school to house grades preK-5. The new school will replace the D. W. Lunt School and the Plummer-Motz School.

The school is proposed to be constructed on the site that presently houses both the high school and the middle school. The proposal places all Falmouth schools on one campus which will result in a better coordinated system, especially with personnel.

Falmouth went through an extensive site selection process both in reviewing town maps and in advertising for potential sites. Eighteen town owned sites and thirteen privately owned sites were investigated. The available sites were not appropriate due to topography, size, and wet lands.

The present Plummer-Motz and D. W. Lunt site was extensively studied. The cost of developing the site was more than the cost of the high school site because of the extensive ledges, circulation issues, and temporary housing.

A site behind the Superintendent's office was also evaluated. The site was not appropriate because of wet lands that restricted areas. Both the high school site and the Superintendent's site require transportation off site improvements. The high school site has public water, sewer, and three phase power. In developing the site, traffic flow will be improved at the campus.

A complete site application is on file at the Department of Education.

All State and local agencies that have an interest or involvement in the proposed school have been contacted. Their responses are on file in the Department of Education. The architect has completed the Site Application form as well as the New vs. Renovation Study of the affected schools.

***Project Information:***

Project: Falmouth Elementary School  
Superintendent: George Entwistle, III  
Architect: Oak Point Associates  
Total number of acres: 101  
Total number of acres eligible for State support: NA (town owned)  
Purchase cost: NA (town owned)  
Appraised value: NA  
Amount eligible for State support: NA

**CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

At its meeting on March 31, 2008, the Construction Committee gained consensus to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to the Falmouth School Department for construction of a new elementary school in Falmouth, Maine.

**COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATION**

The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to the Falmouth School Department for construction of a new elementary school in Falmouth, Maine, under the provisions of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

\*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team